

Hirsch, Too, Raised Rents, Tenants Say

Mayor's Committee Chairman Owns Apartment
Where One Increase Is
Reported as 52 Per Cent

Board Promised To Halt Profiteers

"Isn't It Queer?" Asks
One Resident of Jumps
in Investigator's House

Nathan Hirsch is chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Rent Profiteering which has been hunting down gouging landlords since April. He has been instrumental, too, in obtaining legislation designed to curb greedy property owners, and asserted with other members of his committee that "the most obvious method of fighting extortionate rentals was by the use of pitiless publicity."

Mr. Hirsch himself owns a tenement house at 47 East Eighty-eighth Street, Manhattan, a five-story structure with basement, accommodating eleven families. Tenants there told a reporter for The Tribune yesterday that the rentals have been increased in some cases as high as 52 per cent within the last two years.

For two apartments on the ground floor which netted \$25 each a year ago last May, say the tenants, \$34 and \$38 is now charged, a boost in one case of 36 and in the other of 52 per cent. Another family on the second floor said their rent had been raised \$8 within the same period, with varying increases distributed among the other tenants.

Mrs. R. Oppenheim, a widow with two children, who occupies the 334 apartment on the ground floor, has been here for twelve years. "I don't know whether I ought to complain or not," she said, "when I consider the fact that neighbors across the way have had their rents increased from \$20 to \$30 a month for apartments similar to ours."

"Besides, I wouldn't want to say anything about it. You know, Mr. Hirsch is head of that committee looking after those profiteers, and he wouldn't want it known that he himself has been raising the rents this high as some of the others in the house," she said. "Still I was boosted \$4. They couldn't possibly have added more to the apartment I have here. It's just as much as we can stand."

Mr. Hirsch was head of the Mayor's committee on taxation and investigation of profiteering. He was called on the rent situation because, in April, and the Mayor urged him to appoint a committee to look into the matter. With himself as the head, the committee on rent profiteering was constituted as follows: Peter J. Brady, Supervisor of the City Record; Henry Block, a real estate lawyer, of 99 Nassau Street; Edward L. Hauman, president of the Central Federal Union, and the Rev. A. Ray Petty, pastor of the Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Street.

In requesting Mr. Hirsch to create this committee Mayor Hylan urged him to take such means as would be lawful and proper to put an end to a condition which is most despicable in the eyes of all our citizens."

After investigating thousands of cases Mr. Hirsch announced that "10 per cent of the landlords are profiteering, and many would have attempted to make 40 and 50 per cent on their rent if they had not been deterred by one way or another."

Maurice Wertheim, Mr. Hirsch's agent, declared last night that the rates for the apartments in this house were fair and considerably lower than those of neighboring houses.

"You must take into consideration," he said, "that the tenants are furnished steam heat, hot and cold water and electric lights. In the period that the increases were made our expenses have gone up from 30 to 40 per cent. Mr. Hirsch, however, has been very fair with his tenants, and I know of at least two cases where he has instructed me to lower the rentals in order to equalize the rate with other tenants in the house."

Mr. Hirsch is in Canada for a vacation.

Accuses Coal Men Of "Famine" Plot Huddleston Tells House Operators Plan "Sky High" Prices in Winter

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Representative Huddleston, himself a large owner of coal lands, told the House to-day that "sky high" prices for coal next winter and intense suffering are the result of the refusal of the National Coal Association to sell coal now at a reasonable price. He demanded that Congress pass legislation to force coal on the market now and that laws be passed to fix prices so that exorbitant profits may be prohibited next winter.

"The members of the association have failed in their campaign to sell their coal at the present exorbitant prices," said Mr. Huddleston, "have now decided to withhold fuel from the market until the snow flies. The association claims there is a shortage of coal now, because of a shortage of labor and coal cars."

"The whole trouble is that there is no market because the operators are demanding exorbitant prices. There is no shortage of labor or coal cars. The only shortage is found in the coal association itself—it is woefully lacking in the principles of common honesty and humanity."

Mr. Huddleston read to the House a letter from the railroad administration stating the supply of coal cars is adequate, but there is no demand for men because of the weak market. The National Coal Association, Mr. Huddleston claimed, recently appropriated \$50,000 to carry on a "buy coal now campaign."

"This was divided up among 400 newspapers," he said, "and there was hardly a single statement of fact in the advertisements. This campaign has failed, and the association at a recent meeting at Kansas City decided to keep as much coal as possible off the market until winter comes. Nothing is going to stay this infamous plot except the action of Congress."

Britain Pushes Peace Work as Unrest Vanishes

Labor Troubles Settled as
Extreme Radicalism Is
Rejected by Workers:
"War Mind" Is Displaced

LONDON, Aug. 13.—The general situation in Great Britain has improved beyond the most optimistic expectations. There is no longer any reason for alarm in the industrial world and all signs point to a return of approximately normal conditions. The fast time in many months the government can breathe freely again, employers can make plans extending beyond the operation of the immediate present and workers can devote their energies to production rather than to schemes for the advancement of their own interest.

The Yorkshire coal miners' strike, which cost the men more than \$15,000,000 in wages, besides seriously affecting industrial life here and on the continent, has been settled. The police strike is now history. The bakers' strike has been settled and Liverpool is settled down. Even war profiteering is the decision of the triple alliance of miners, railway men and transport workers to postpone its strike vote, which means the abandonment of "direct action" as a means of obtaining workers' demands.

Extreme radicalism, which is itself removed from Bolshevism, has failed to establish its claim to leadership of labor in this country. Advocates of constitutional reform by peaceful means rather than revolution control the British working class.

The return of the nation to a peace basis is now the chief objective of the government. What Lord Robert Cecil calls the war mind is now giving way to the peace mind. War phrases no longer have the power to thrill or convert. Financial calculations upon a peace basis simply serve to arouse antagonism. Consequently the government is rapidly reducing its military forces. Sweeping cuts in the military appropriations aggregating \$3,000,000 will be made. Lloyd George's two aims—to increase production and to decrease expenditures—seem to be in a fair way to be accomplished.

Mr. Barnes, labor member of the War Cabinet, says the decision of the Triple Alliance marks a new era in the nation's industrial life. The government's scheme for punishing profiteers already has had good effect, but it has convinced the masses that officialdom really wants to protect them. Incidentally, it has had a sobering effect upon the most flagrant profiteers.

In a brief period the country has undergone a marked change. A short time ago, with the rate of exchange declining, and hundreds of factories closed, the working part time, the British people were in a state of depression, away from the world's trade, and come reports of American labor troubles and sharp political divisions which make the British business men look up.

New Japanese Envoy Reported Named to U. S.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13.—Kijuro Shidehara, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Japanese Cabinet, has been appointed Japanese Ambassador at Washington. The Japanese Ambassador, Ishii, according to cable advices received to-day from Tokyo by the Japanese-American, a local Japanese language newspaper.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The appointment of Kijuro Shidehara to succeed Viscount Chinda as Japanese Ambassador to the United States, was not confirmed at the embassy here, has been expected by Japanese officials here. Mr. Shidehara was formerly attached to the embassy here, serving as counselor for two years during the period that Viscount Chinda was Ambassador. From Washington he was promoted to the post of minister and served in Switzerland previous to his recall to Tokyo to take the office of Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Shidehara also has served in the London Embassy and has had wide experience in the diplomatic service, which he entered immediately after graduation from the University of Tokyo.

Move to Rush Treaty Starts Senate Clash

Hitchcock's Demand for
Report by Committee
Is Resented by Fall;
Harsh Language Used

Majority Claimed For 2 Amendments

Administration Confident
That Upper House Will
Accept Shantung Part

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—An "ultimatum" to the Republican leaders from the Administration, demanding an immediate report of the peace treaty, precipitated a bitter row in the Foreign Relations Committee to-day. Harsh language was used by Senator Hitchcock, who voiced the Administration demand, and by Senator Fall, of New Mexico, who resented the criticism of delay.

Important features of the treaty situation of which the stormy session of the committee was the climax follow:

FIRST—A majority for two textual amendments to the treaty—that on Shantung and one giving the United States an equal vote in the league assembly with the British Empire, is claimed by Senator George H. Moses. This is in addition to a majority for at least four reservations (those of Root and a declaration on the Irish question).

SECOND—Administration Leader Hitchcock conceded that the Foreign Relations Committee would report the treaty out with at least four reservations and one amendment—that of Shantung. This is the Republican program, as described in The Tribune this morning.

Hitchcock Predicts Victory
THIRD—Senator Hitchcock claimed "forty-odd" votes solid against any reservation or amendment. He has made no canvass on Shantung, but is sure it will be defeated in the Senate.

FOURTH—The calling of General Bliss, Colonel E. M. House, Captain Hornbeck, Professor E. T. Williams and William C. Bullitt, was demanded of Chairman Lodge by Senators Hiram Johnson and Borah in a joint letter. Captain Hornbeck and Professor Williams resigned as experts of the American peace delegation after writing protests against Shantung, and Mr. Bullitt resigned, Secretary of State Lansing testified, because he did not like the treaty.

FIFTH—As a result of the anger raised by the Hitchcock ultimatum, it is conceded that Chairman Lodge cannot carry out his purpose as expressed in his letter of August 12, to urge the treaty through without hearing more witnesses. "The point is just this," said Senator Hitchcock after the meeting, when asked if he did not think it would advance the cause of the treaty to have Colonel House appear and give the committee and the country information regarding the treaty. "The committee and the country information regarding the treaty is not to be withheld from the committee. It is to be made known to the committee and the country."

Members' Minds Made Up
"Every member has his mind made up just how he will vote on every question. Frankly I expect the treaty to be manhandled in committee. It will be amended or reserved to death. But the committee is not to be intimidated by the Senate. In the Senate we will undo the harm which has been done by the treaty in committee. A majority in the committee is actually in favor of killing the league and the treaty."

"So I told the committee to-day that unless I could be given some assurance of the attitude of the majority I would not go to the Senate to support the treaty. I am not particularly concerned as to what the committee does, so long as it does this action speedily. Let us get the treaty out on the Senate floor, where it belongs."

During the row in committee Mr. Hitchcock was forced to concede that Secretary Lansing had not given the committee very much information. "The witnesses sent by the President," Senator Lodge is quoted as having said, "were not of the slightest value. They gave no information, but evasive answers. The President has refused to appear before the committee, but has suggested that we should wait on him with our hands on our heads and say 'I can understand.'"

Will Not Rush Report
Senator Lodge does not believe that the committee will be able to obtain any more information, but he is not in any hurry to report. He has been not only weakened in his plan to rush the treaty, but has lost some of his own desire for speed, some of his colleagues declared to-night.

Meanwhile Senator Hiram Johnson, the moving spirit of those who wish much more information before taking any action, characterized the desire of the Administration to railroad the treaty without giving the Senate any facts as monstrous. Mr. Johnson called on his colleagues to note that the Administration's own witnesses before the committee had admitted that one could tell the extent of the obligation of the United States by the summing up until not only the Austrian treaty, but the treaties with Bulgaria, Turkey, Czechoslovakia and Jugoslavia have been obtained.

Senator Borah to-day made it clear that he would vote for any amendment or strong reservation that would remove the league or any objectionable feature of the treaty, reserving the right to vote against the league and the treaty on the final rollcall. He did not, however, vote for the so-called interpretative reservations. The Democrats had hoped Senator Borah would vote against reservations because he believed them ineffectual. Senators from the Administration, urging of haste, after claiming that every day made the task of ratifying the treaty without reservations easier, was that the Administration has discovered time was working against the league, not only in the Senate but in the country.

Law Asked to Curb Clothing Prices; U. S. Starts Seizure of Stored Food; Police Ordered to Hunt Out Profiteers

Hylan Directs Enright
to Use Uniformed Men
on Trail of Hoarders
to Speed Up Evidence

Smith Gives Order For Milk Inquiry

Meets Investigators and
Says Legislature Will
Be Called if Needed

While Governor Smith, Mayor Hylan and District Attorney Swann were aligning themselves with the forces combating the high cost of living the wholesale prices of beef, lamb and veal advanced and the dairy price quotations evinced new and discouraging upward tendencies.

The growing intensity of the fight on high prices was not registered on the retail market either, grocers and butchers in various sections of the city declared. They said that prices are climbing steadily and that the recent agitation has failed to deter the ascent in the slightest. Some thought that it was providing a little impetus.

The developments in the battle for lower priced food yesterday included the following:

Governor Smith conferred with his two newly appointed food commissioners, former Governor Glynn and John H. Finley, and with District Attorney Swann. He directed the latter to present to the grand jury any evidence showing law violations.

Police Aid Ordered
Mayor Hylan requested Police Commissioner Enright to have a thorough search for profiteers made by the police in each precinct.

District Attorney Swann announced that his investigation into food profiteering and hoarding will commence shortly and be conducted along the lines of the war charities investigation of 1917-1918.

Ben A. Matthews, assistant United States Attorney, declared that he has extended his investigation to take in alleged combinations and flagrant violations of the anti-trust laws. The first concrete evidence of hoarding was disclosed yesterday by Arthur Williams, Federal Food Administrator, who said that he has learned of 2,000 tons of sugar offered to a dealer for 12-1/2 cents a pound. Secret Service agents were detailed to investigate.

Michael M. Friedsam, president of B. Altman's, was appointed to a special committee of the fair price committee. Dealers and food market experts charged consumers with being responsible for the high prices by concentrating on the best grades of food, and neglecting the poorer grades.

Smith Busy All Day
Governor Smith devoted his day to the high cost of living question. In the morning he conferred with Mrs. Henry Moscowitz, secretary of the State Reconstruction Commission, and throughout the afternoon was closeted with Special Commissioner Glynn and John H. Finley, District Attorney Swann and Assistant District Attorneys John T. Dooling, Edwin P. Kilroe and Alfred J. Tappan.

At the conclusion of the conference the Governor announced that if evidence showing that the present crisis could be relieved by legislation was presented to him he would immediately call a special session of the legislature. It is understood that Mrs. Moscowitz made this suggestion to the Governor. He said he had not been able to digest the report of the State Reconstruction Commission, which suggests remedial legislation, because of the press of other matters.

Governor's Statement
The Governor's statement on his instructions to District Attorney Swann to act against combinations and hoarders follows:

"After a conference with the District Attorney and several of his assistants, I have directed District Attorney Swann to proceed at once with the presentation to the grand jury of any evidence he may have showing any violations of law connected in any way with the recent increase in the price of milk on the part of the producers, distributors or any other person, or persons in league with them in violating the law, and if there are any unlawful combinations in existence having for their object the hoarding of food, for the purpose of increasing the price, I have directed the District Attorney to use all the powers of this office to bring the offenders to justice."

Mayor Hylan, in requesting the police investigation, declared that evidence gathered would be presented to the District Attorney for prosecution. It is understood that some of the disclosures will be turned over to Assistant United States Attorney Matthews for Federal prosecution.

Hylan's Letter to Enright
The Mayor's letter to Commissioner Enright follows:

"I believe one of the quickest ways of obtaining evidence against retail hoarders is to have an investigation made in each police precinct. 'With this end in view I would suggest that you have the captains in each precinct direct all the police units, but we would willingly call on a new special grand jury to act on food if it is deemed necessary.'"

Secret service operatives were assigned to investigate the charges by Arthur Williams, Federal Food Administrator, that sugar is being hoarded in large quantities throughout the city. Mr. Williams yesterday urged dealers to advise him at once if they are offered large quantities of sugar at exorbitant prices.

Seems as Though the Whole Team Ought To Be Able to Down Him



Food Prices in City Show Great Variation

WHATEVER else the food prices in various parts of New York may be, there is an utter lack of uniformity about them. Prices on the lower East Side run, on an average, lower than the prices reached by adding the Food Administration's margins to the wholesale quotations. The Federal committee for the New York district has not yet issued an official "fair" price list.

There would appear to be more profiteering in groceries than meat. Eggs, for instance, are selling on University Heights at 16 cents a dozen more than the fair price list. Cheese ranges from 25 to 58 cents a pound, according to the locality where sold. Butter runs from 55 to 68 cents.

Following is an analysis and comparison of food prices in various sections of the city:

Commodity.	Fair Price.	Lower East Side.	University Heights.
Sugar, lb.	11	11	11
Flour, lb.	7.5	8	8
Butter, lb.	55	58	62
Eggs, dozen	54	55	62
Potatoes, lb.	1.5	1.5	1.5
Onions, lb.	1.5	1.5	1.5
Canned tomatoes	12	15	20
Canned corn	15	16	16
Canned peas	15	16	16
Canned salmon	27	25	25
Shrimp, lb.	45	42	45
Top sirloin, lb.	40	40	40
Bottom round, lb.	31	32	32
Prime rib roast, lb.	50	50	50
Leg of lamb, lb.	40	40	40
Leg of pork, lb.	37	37	37
Rib chops, lb.	40	40	40
Stew, lb.	21	20	16
Ham, lb.	48	48	48
Bacon, lb.	52	48	50
Smoked ham, lb.	42	40	40

Actors' Strike Closes 2 More Theatres Here

"Follies" and "39 East" Are
Stopped as Players Quit;
Injunction of Managers
Fails to Halt the Stars

The casts of Florenz Ziegfeld's "Follies of 1919" and of "39 East" struck yesterday, making darkened theatres in New York number thirteen.

In Chicago a truce was arranged by counsel for the managers and the Actors' Equity Association pending the hearing of an application for an injunction restraining the Actors' Equity Association officials from calling a strike.

The orchestra was tuning up in the pit at the Maxine Elliott Theatre and the audience was rustling through its programmes yesterday afternoon when the manager of the house appeared before the curtain and informed them that the players had struck. Many of the actors even then were hurrying out the stage door, some of them wearing "make-up," to join the throng of striking actors at 160 West Forty-fifth Street, their headquarters.

The "Protecting Managers' Association" of the strike leaders from ordering any action would not be closed because Supreme Court Justice Richard Lyden had issued an injunction restraining the strike leaders from ordering any action inducing their players to leave and also preventing principals, who were named, from walking out.

Win Plea to Strike

Justus Sheffield, an attorney, appeared before Justice Lyden yesterday on behalf of his clients—Eddie Cantor, Johnnie and Ray Dooley, Van and Scherck, Dowling and Steele—the principals named in the injunction. He asked that the restraining order as it applied to these artists be vacated. Justice Lyden granted the application, and these comedians, singers and dancers were once more in a position to quit work without fear of going to jail for contempt of court.

Last night holders of tickets for the evening performance of the Follies were hurrying into their seats just before the curtain was due to rise, when the house manager informed them that the company had struck—all except Bert Williams—and that the purchase price of their tickets would be refunded. Another minute the lobby was choked with people and the box office besieged with persons seeking their money.

Truce in Chicago
From Chicago news came that Francis Wilson, president of the Actors' Equity Association, was there directing

2 Firms Robbed Of \$223,000; Boys Missing

Two robberies in the financial district totalling \$223,000 were reported to the police yesterday. The robberies occurred on Tuesday, and in both cases messengers carrying bonds and securities disappeared while on duty.

The first loss, totalling \$178,000, occurred to Richard Whitney & Co., 14 Wall Street. The loss is represented by \$103,000 in Victory bonds, \$7,000 in Liberty bonds and \$68,000 in railroad bonds.

The second loss was suffered by Simmons & Slade, 5 Nassau Street, representing \$45,000 in 4 1/2 per cent Liberty bonds.

The messenger for Whitney & Co. was Benjamin H. Pinkowitz, twenty-three years old, of 169 Eldridge Street. He was sent out on noon Tuesday with a satchel containing the \$178,000 worth of securities for delivery to Kidder, Peabody & Co., by whom they had been purchased and who were to give him a check covering the amount.

Pinkowitz was absent for nearly two hours, when Kidder, Peabody & Co. telephoned the Whitney firm to deliver the securities.

While inquiries were being instituted Hirschfeld & Sands, a brokerage firm, informed the Whitney office an empty satchel bearing the firm's name had been found in a room in front of 43 Exchange Place.

So far no trace had been found of the messenger.

Harry Williams, twenty-one years old, of 127 West 127th Street, was the messenger for Simmons & Slade. He too left the office at noon Tuesday to deliver the securities to brokerage firms in the financial district. His satchel was found behind a desk in the Simmons & Slade office two hours after he left the place. He had been employed for three months. He is 5 feet 8 inches tall, is also good looking and, like Pinkowitz, flashy dressed.

At the office of the National Surety Company surprise was expressed at the fact that the financial district trust, valuable securities to young messengers.

Government Begins a Price Cutting War on Retailers by Slashing Army Stores Schedule

Contest Assumes A Wider Scope

Palmer Seeks to Put
Teeth in Control Bill by
Providing Prison Terms

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Preparations for a final fight against the high cost of living by Congress and the executive departments moved forward at a rapid pace to-day.

Attorney General Palmer asked Congress to extend the food control act to include wearing apparel and food containers and to make profiteering punishable by two years' imprisonment and \$5,000 fine. He announced that he would ask at a later date for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to detect and prosecute hoarders and profiteers, and \$200,000 for the prosecution of anti-trust law violators.

Other developments of the day were: Federal agents seized nearly two and one-half millions eggs and immense quantities of canned goods and other commodities in warehouses in Tampa, Fla., and Chattanooga, Tenn.

A suit in equity charging violations of the Sherman law was filed at Trenton, N. J., against the Cement Manufacturers' Protective Association, embracing all the large manufacturers of Portland cement, by the Department of Justice. The government asked that the association be adjudged a combination and conspiracy in restraint of trade.

The War Department announced sweeping reductions in the prices of surplus army foodstuffs to be sold to the public by parcel post beginning August 18, such reductions being intended to meet cuts in price made by food dealers in anticipation of the government sales. Postmaster General Burleson issued rules to govern the army food sales.

The Department of Labor asked Congress to appropriate \$475,000 and the Department of Commerce asked \$410,000 to allow them to assist in the campaign to bring prices down.

The special Senate committee on the high cost of living held its first meeting to-day and will meet again to-morrow to map out its policy in seeking a solution of the price problem. Chairman Townsend will seek to have all legislation dealing with the cost of living emergency sent to his special committee.

Prompt Action Promised
Meetings of the Senate and House Agricultural committees were called for to-morrow to take action on Attorney General Palmer's request for extension of the food control act. The request is already before a subcommittee of the House committee on Education and Commerce, and definite action by its committee to-morrow.

Majority Leader Mondell of the House said appropriations asked for in the bill for the high cost of living, which with Attorney General Palmer's forthcoming request for \$1,000,000 amount to \$2,500,000, will be considered promptly by the House. Senator McNallar, Democrat, of Tennessee, urged the Senate to act on his bill for the regulation of cold storage. Asserting that the packers are hoarding meat from the market in order to exact huge profits next winter, he recommended price fixing as the remedy.

First Retailer Convicted
Most of the activity in Washington since the President's high cost of living speech last Friday has been in preparation for the contest to reduce prices of necessities. However, Attorney General Palmer announced the first conviction for profiteering by a retailer to-day. A grocer in Birmingham, Ala., was fined \$500. The Department of Justice was advised, for selling sugar at 15 cents a pound.

Attorney General Palmer said he would ask Congress to deny the hoarders and profiteers at this time other than that suggested in his letter to the chairman of the Senate and the amendments to the food control act recommended by Mr. Palmer would give him very broad powers in dealing with illegal manipulation of food supplies.

Teeth Put in Control Act
Section 4 of the food control act would be made to read as follows:

"That it is hereby made unlawful for any person to destroy, by any means, or to attempt to destroy, the price or restricting the supply thereof; knowingly to commit waste or willfully to permit preventable deterioration of any necessities in or in connection with their production, manufacture or distribution; or, as defined in Section 6 of this act, any necessities; to monopolize or attempt to monopolize, either locally or generally, any necessities;